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News Release

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12th defendant pleads guilty to distributing crack cocaine

The 12th defendant with ties to an organization that distributed large amounts of crack cocaine and cocaine from Minneapolis to Stevens Point, Wisconsin, and from Minneapolis to St. Cloud, has pleaded guilty to federal charges related to that crime. Appearing before United States District Court Judge Richard H. Kyle in St. Paul yesterday, Antoine Raymone Killing, 32, of St. Cloud, pled guilty to one count of conspiracy to distribute cocaine and cocaine base, commonly known as crack cocaine; one count of possession with intent to distribute cocaine; and one count of distribution of cocaine. Killing was indicted along with 11 co-defendants on December 16, 2008. Those co-defendants previously pled guilty to similar charges or other charges arising from the same events.

As for Killing, he admitted conspiring with his co-defendants to distribute 50 or more grams of crack cocaine and cocaine from 2005 through December 2008. In addition, he admitted possessing with intent to distribute 2 grams of cocaine on September 10, 2008, and distributing 3 grams of cocaine on November 19, 2008.

Last year 11 others in this case pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy, all admitting conspiring with each other to distribute crack cocaine and cocaine:

Chris Bronner, 35, of Minneapolis, admitted being responsible for 116 grams of crack cocaine. Specifically, he possessed 53 grams of crack cocaine on February 7, 2008, intending to distribute it in the Stevens Point area; and he distributed 63 grams of crack cocaine in Minneapolis on March 7, 2008.

Kelvin Martel Bronner, 24, of Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, admitted aiding others in the distribution of 53 grams of crack cocaine on February 7, 2008.

Fredrick Deshawn Holmes, 33, of Minneapolis, admitted distributing 11 grams of crack

cocaine on August 20, 2008, and 25 grams of crack cocaine on September 10, 2008.

Kenneth Dwayne Hudson, 35, of St. Cloud, admitted distributing 63 grams of crack cocaine on March 7, 2008.

Lawrence Darryl Porter, 39, of Minneapolis, admitted distributing 63 grams of crack cocaine on March 7, 2008, and 28 grams of crack cocaine on September 10, 2008.

Lonnie Rutherford, 34, unknown address, admitted conspiring to distribute cocaine in 2006. He further admitted being responsible for between 5,000 and 15,000 grams of cocaine.

Donald Scott Schultz, 46, of Marshfield, Wisconsin, admitted aiding in the distribution of 53 grams of crack cocaine on February 7, 2008.

Michael Donjuarel Scott, 24, of Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, admitted to aiding in the distribution of 53 grams of crack cocaine on February 7, 2008.

Demone Royelio Smith, 36, of Minneapolis, admitted distributing 61 grams of crack cocaine on December 30, 2007.

Victor Lamont Tookes, 37, of Brooklyn Park, admitted distributing 28 grams of crack cocaine on November 29, 2007, 63 grams of crack cocaine on December 7, 2007, 126 grams of crack cocaine on May 7, 2008, and 28 grams of crack cocaine on July 15, 2008.

Courtney Tiandre Totten, 32, of Brooklyn Park, pled guilty to one count of use of a communication facility to facilitate the commission of a drug-trafficking crime. Specifically, she admitted using a cell phone to conspire to distribute 126 grams of crack cocaine on May 7, 2008.

These 12 defendants, including Antoine Raymone Killing, face a potential maximum penalty of life in prison. Judge Kyle will determine their sentences at a future date.

Two others connected to this operation but charged separately also have pled guilty to federal crimes:

Jermaine A. Jenkins, 30, unknown address, has pleaded guilty to one count of felon in possession of a firearm. Jenkins admitted possessing an AR-15 semi-automatic assault rifle and a semi-automatic handgun and was found in possession of a second semi-automatic handgun. As a convicted felon, Jenkins is prohibited from possessing firearms or ammunition. He faces a potential maximum penalty of 10 years in prison. U.S. District Court Judge Patrick Schiltz will determine his sentence at a future date.

Scott A. Doescher, 26, of Junction City, Wisconsin, has pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine. In his plea agreement, Doescher admitted conspiring with others to distribute crack cocaine in Minnesota from 2007 through 2008. He specifically admitted distributing at least 50 grams of the drug between October 2007 and February 2008. In addition, he admitted trading one or more firearms, including a 45-caliber semiautomatic handgun, for crack cocaine. For his crimes, Doescher faces a potential maximum penalty of life in prison, with a mandatory minimum prison sentence of 10 years. U.S. District Court Judge

Richard H. Kyle will determine his sentence at a future date.

This case is the result of an investigation by Drug Enforcement Administration, the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the St. Cloud Police Department, the Bloomington Police Department, the Stevens Point Police Department (Wisconsin), the Wood County Sheriff's Office (Wisconsin), and the Central Minnesota Drug and Gang Task Force, which is comprised of officers from the sheriff's offices of Benton, Morrison, Stearns, and Todd counties. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Tracy L. Perzel.